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IN THE CLAIMS:

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-8.   (canceled)

9.   (currently amended) A method for expanding a first sequence of data elements representing successive rows of successive character cells corresponding to a sequence of text characters to a second sequence of data elements longer than the first sequence, said method comprising:

receiving a data element representing a row of a text character cell;

forming a horizontal expansion pattern corresponding to the text character based on character code and row number of the text character cell, the horizontal expansion pattern being set to a specified length; and

appending the horizontal expansion pattern to the second sequence of data elements,

wherein the horizontal expansion pattern is contained in lookup tables indexed by the character code and the row number.

10.   (previously presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein;

the specified length is the same for all horizontal expansion patterns comprising the second sequence of data elements; and

the second sequence of data elements fills a flat panel display.

11.   (canceled)

12.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 5+ 9, wherein the lookup table resides in layer 3 of VGA video RAM.

13.   (previously presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein:

the data element comprises eight bits; and

the horizontal expansion pattern comprises ten bits.

14.   (previously presented) A method for expanding a first sequence of data elements representing successive rows of successive character cells corresponding to a sequence of text characters to a second sequence of data elements longer than the first sequence, said method comprising:

receiving a plurality of bits representing a plurality of text character cell lines;

determining a first bit and a last bit for each data element within the first sequence;

forming a horizontal expansion pattern corresponding to the text character, the horizontal expansion pattern being set to a specified length, wherein the horizontal expansion pattern is contained in lookup tables indexed by the character code and row number; and

appending the horizontal expansion pattern to the second sequence of data elements.

15.   (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein said determining the first and last bits for each data element comprises:

scanning the plurality of bits for repeating bit values at whole number multiples of eight or nine, the bit values corresponding to the background color;

setting a cell line bit length to the whole number multiples;

setting the first bit of a data element to the bit following the repeating bit value; and

setting the last bit of a data element based on the first bit and the cell line bit length.

16.   (canceled)

17.   (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the lookup table resides in layer 3 of VGA video RAM.

18.   (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, further comprising:

determining whether a horizontal scan for a current row has completed; and

loading into VGA RAM a lookup table containing horizontal expansion information for the next row when the horizontal scan has completed.

19-20. (canceled)

21.   (currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for expanding a first sequence of data elements representing successive rows of successive character cells corresponding to a sequence of text characters to a second sequence of data elements longer than the first sequence, said method comprising:

reading a data element representing a row of a text character cell;

forming a horizontal expansion pattern corresponding to the text character based on character code and row number of the text character cell, the horizontal expansion pattern being set to a specified length; and

appending the horizontal expansion pattern to the second sequence of data elements,

<u>wherein the horizontal expansion pattern is contained in lookup tables indexed by the character code and the row number.</u>

22.   (previously presented) A program storage device according to claim 21, wherein the specified length is the same for all horizontal expansion patterns comprising the second sequence of data elements; and

the second sequence of data elements fills a flat panel display.

23.   (canceled)

24.   (currently amended) A program storage device according to claim ~~53~~ <u>21</u>, wherein the lookup table resides in layer 3 of VGA video RAM.

25.   (previously presented) A program storage device according to claim 24, wherein:

the data element comprises eight bits; and

the horizontal expansion pattern comprises ten bits.

26.   (previously presented) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for expanding a first sequence of data elements representing successive rows of successive character cells corresponding to a sequence of text characters to a second sequence of data elements longer than the first sequence, said method comprising:

receiving a plurality of bits representing a plurality of text character cell lines;

determining a first bit and a last bit for each data element within the first sequence;

forming a horizontal expansion pattern corresponding to the text character, the horizontal expansion pattern being set to a specified length, wherein the horizontal expansion pattern is contained in lookup tables indexed by the character code and the row number; and

appending the horizontal expansion pattern to the second sequence of data elements.

27.   (previously presented) A program storage device according to claim 26, wherein said determining the first and last bits for each data element comprises:

scanning the plurality of bits for repeating bit values at whole number multiples of eight or nine, the bit values corresponding to the background color;

setting a cell line bit length to the whole number multiples;

setting the first bit of a data element to the bit following the repeating bit value; and

setting the last bit of a data element based on the first bit and the cell line bit length.

28.   (canceled)

29.   (previously presented) A program storage device according to claim 26, wherein the lookup table resides in layer 3 of VGA video RAM.

30.   (previously presented) An apparatus for expanding a first sequence of data elements representing successive rows of successive character cells corresponding to a sequence of text characters to a second sequence of data elements longer than the first sequence, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a data element representing a row of a text character cell;

means for forming a horizontal expansion pattern corresponding to the text character based on character code and row number of the text character cell, the horizontal expansion pattern being set to a specified length, wherein the horizontal expansion pattern is contained in lookup tables indexed by the character code and the row number; and

means for appending the horizontal expansion pattern to the second sequence of data elements.

31.   (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 30, wherein;

the specified length is the same for all horizontal expansion patterns comprising the second sequence of data elements; and

the second sequence of data elements fills a flat panel display.

32.   (canceled)

33.   (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the lookup table resides in layer 3 of VGA video RAM.

34.   (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 30, wherein:

the data element comprises eight bits; and

the horizontal expansion pattern comprises ten bits.

35. (previously presented) An apparatus for expansion of a first sequence of data elements representing successive rows of successive character cells corresponding to a sequence of text characters to a second sequence of data elements longer than the first sequence, said apparatus comprising:

     means for receiving a plurality of bits representing a plurality of text character cell lines;

     means for determining a first bit and a last bit for each data element within the first sequence;

     means for forming a horizontal expansion pattern corresponding to the text character, the horizontal expansion pattern being set to a specified length, wherein the horizontal expansion pattern is contained in lookup tables indexed by the character code and row number; and

     means for appending the horizontal expansion pattern to the second sequence of data elements.

36. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said means for determining the first and last bits for each data element comprises:

     means for scanning the plurality of bits for repeating bit values at whole number multiples of eight or nine, the bit values corresponding to the background color;

     means for setting a cell line bit length to the whole number multiples;

     means for setting the first bit of a data element to the bit following the repeating bit value; and

     means for setting the last bit of a data element based on the first bit and the cell line bit length.

37. (canceled)

38. (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the lookup table resides in layer 3 of VGA video RAM.

39.   (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, further comprising:
means for determining whether a horizontal scan for a current row has completed; and
means for loading into VGA RAM a lookup table containing horizontal expansion
information for the next row when the horizontal scan has completed

40.   (canceled)

41.   (currently amended) A method according to claim 51 9, wherein the
corresponding lookup table is loaded into the VGA RAM during horizontal blanking.

42.   (previously presented) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:
determining whether a horizontal scan for a current row has completed; and
loading into VGA RAM a lookup table containing horizontal expansion information for
the next row when the horizontal scan for the current row has completed.

43.   (previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the
corresponding lookup table for the next row is loaded into the VGA RAM during horizontal
blanking.

44.   (currently amended) A program storage device according to claim 53 21, wherein
the corresponding lookup table for the next row is loaded into the VGA RAM during horizontal
blanking.

45.   (previously presented) A program storage device according to claim 21, wherein
said method further comprising:
determining whether a horizontal scan for a current row has completed; and

loading into VGA RAM a lookup table containing horizontal expansion information for the next row when the horizontal scan for the current row has completed.

46.   (previously presented) A program storage device according to claim 26, wherein the corresponding lookup table for the next row is loaded into the VGA RAM during horizontal blanking.

47.   (previously presented) A program storage device according to claim 26, wherein said method further comprising:

determining whether a horizontal scan for a current row has completed; and

loading into VGA RAM a lookup table containing horizontal expansion information for the next row when the horizontal scan for the current row has completed.

48.   (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the corresponding lookup table for the next row is loaded into the VGA RAM during horizontal blanking.

49.   (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 30, further comprising:

means for determining whether a horizontal scan for a current row has completed; and

means for loading into VGA RAM a lookup table containing horizontal expansion information for the next row when the horizontal scan for the current row has completed.

50.   (previously presented) An apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the corresponding lookup table for the next row is loaded into the VGA RAM during horizontal blanking.

51.   (canceled)

52.   (previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein a separate lookup table is provided for each row.

53.   (canceled)

54.   (previously presented) The program storage device of claim 26, wherein a separate lookup table is provided for each row.

55.   (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein a separate lookup table is provided for each row.

56.   (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein a separate lookup table is provided for each row.